

ACCIDENT REPORT

DISASTER FACTS



• U.S. Department of Labor • Occupational Safety and Health Administration • Kansas City Region VII No. 125

ACCIDENT SUMMARY

Accident Type: Fall- Scissor lift fell over sideways with employee in the lift

Weather Conditions: Not applicable - occurred inside facility

Type of Operation: Specialty Meat Products

Size of Work Crew: 4

Union or Non-Union: Union-United Food Commercial Workers Local #271

Worksite inspection conducted: Yes

Competent safety monitoring on-site: Yes

Safety and Health Program in effect: Employer has documented safety and health program

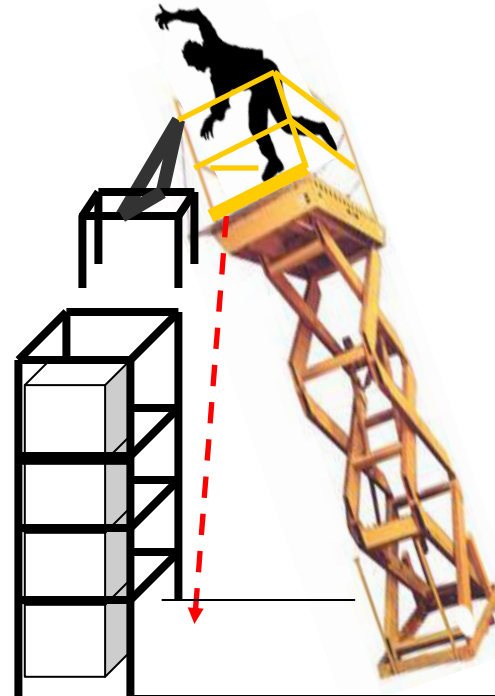
Training and education for employees: Employees are trained on the specific equipment. Training did not incorporate the Operator's manual for the equipment

Craft of deceased employee: Maintenance

Age/Sex: 49/Male

Time on job: Employee previously worked for company, and had returned to work for the facility

Time at task: Approximately 45 minutes



BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF ACCIDENT

Five maintenance employees, including the maintenance supervisor, began their shift at 10:30 pm. For approximately 4.5 hours the crew performed various maintenance duties. At around 3:00 am, the crew began to disassemble storage racks in the middle cooler using two Genie scissor lifts. An employee working from the scissor lift, approximately 20 feet above the ground, was lowering a large portion of the rack to the ground using a strap on the side of the scissor lift. The side loading of the scissor lift caused the lift to become unstable. The weight of the rack was too much for the lift to handle. This resulted in the lift tipping over sideways. The employee rode the lift to the ground, sustaining fatal injuries.

ACCIDENT PREVENTION RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Employer shall ensure that mobile scaffolds are not loaded in excess of their working load limit (29CFR1910.28(a)(7)).
2. Employer shall ensure training for operation of equipment used incorporates the operator's manuals and manufacturer's information on the equipment. Training should include load capacities, restriction on side loading, inspection requirements, operating restrictions, etc.
3. Employer shall conduct a job hazard analysis prior to the start of work, to identify potential hazards and to develop appropriate methods to perform the work.

YOU HAVE A VOICE IN THE WORKPLACE

THE OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH ACT OF 1970 affords workers the right to a safe workplace. OSHA requires employers to provide a workplace that is free of serious recognized hazards and in compliance with OSHA standards. Workers have the right to FILE A COMPLAINT WITH OSHA if they believe that there are either violations of OSHA standards or serious workplace hazards. Contact the [OSHA Area office](#) nearest you or contact our toll free number: 1-800-321-OSHA (6742)... TTY 1-

877-889-5627. To file a complaint online or obtain information on your rights in the workplace, see [the OSHA Workers' Page](#).

OSHA Standards, regulations, documents and technical information are available on the Internet World Wide web at: <http://www.osha.gov>

For hard copies of OSHA Standards [29 CFR Parts 1910 and 1926], which include all OSHA job safety and health rules and regulations, contact the Government Printing Office, phone (202) 512-1800, fax (202) 512-2250.

OSHA-funded free consultation services are listed in telephone directories under U.S. Labor Department or under the state government section where states administer their own OSHA programs.

Courses in occupational health and safety are offered by the OSHA Training Institute, 2020 Arlington Heights Road, Arlington Heights, IL 60005, phone (847) 759-7752, and the Metropolitan Community Colleges Business & Technology Center, 1775 Universal Ave., Kansas City, MO 64120, phone (816) 604-1600.

Note: This case described was selected as being representative of improper work practices which likely contributed to a fatality from a fall and/or electrocution. The accident prevention recommendations do not necessarily reflect the outcome of the legal aspects of the incident case. OSHA encourages your company or organization to duplicate and share this information. To be placed on the email distribution list, contact Peggy Taylor at U.S. Department of Labor-OSHA, 2300 Main, Suite 1010, Kansas City, MO 64108, or e-mail taylor.peggy@dol.gov.